

1-1-2006

UA3/9/1 Centennial Annual Report

WKU President's Office

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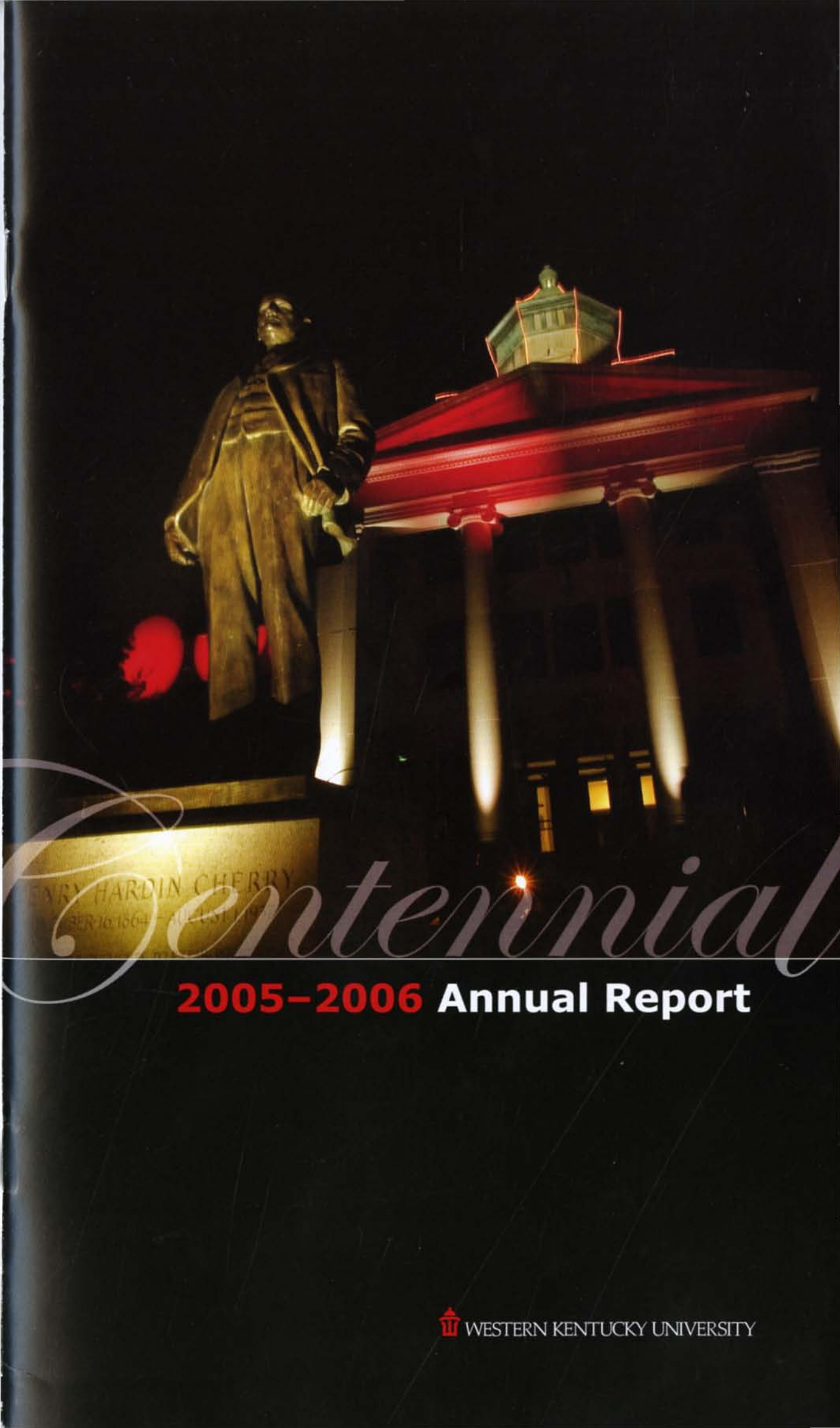


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Centennial

2005–2006 Annual Report



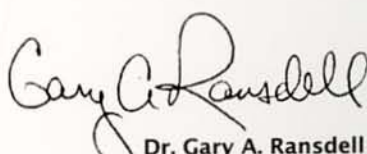
WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

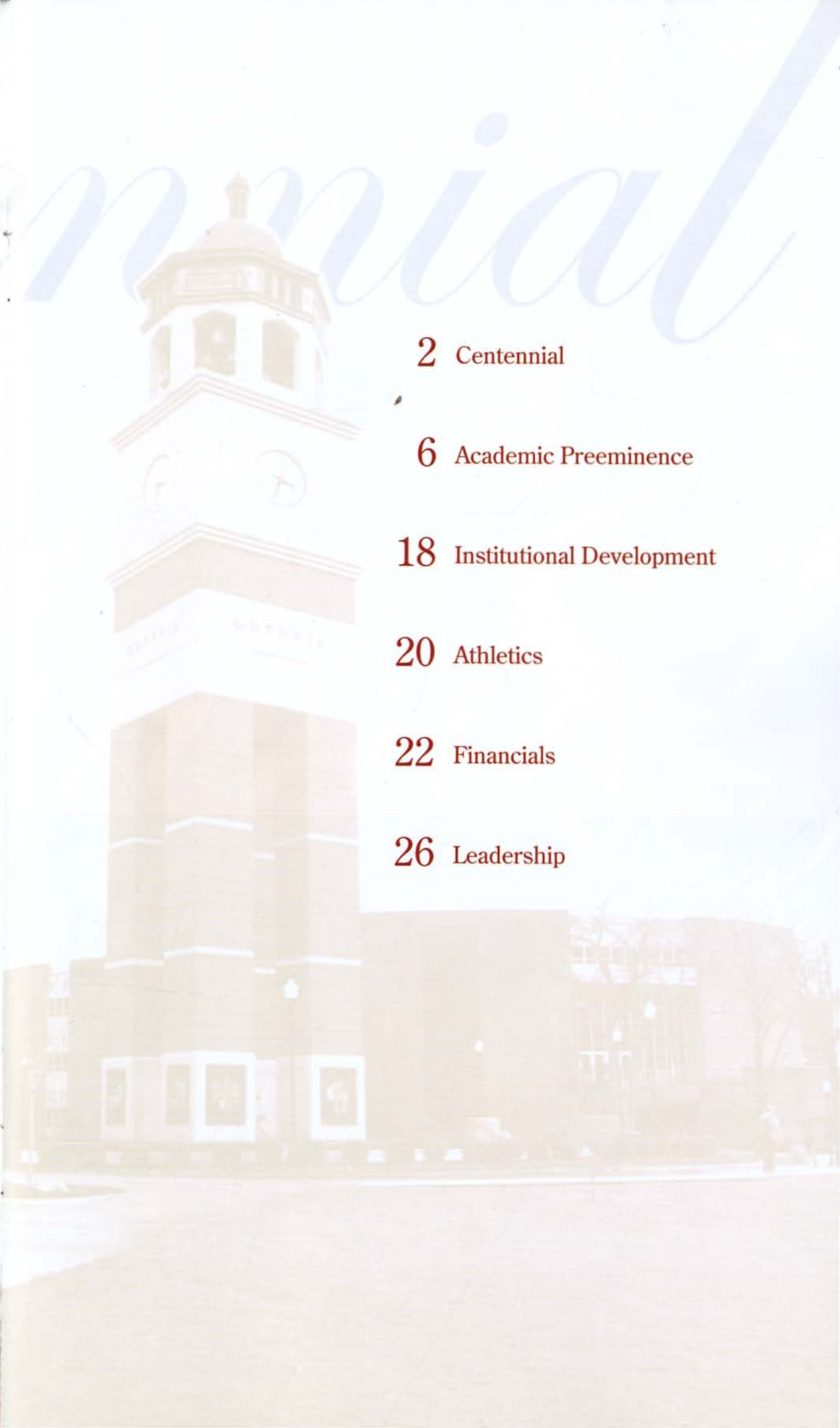


The Western Kentucky University Centennial was a year of events designed to honor the past while looking to the future. The Centennial celebration was about saluting our heritage – the things that have made WKU distinctive and the people who have defined our character. As this historic year draws to a close, we will use the Centennial as a point to create momentum and commitment to a bold vision for the future.

I extend my deepest appreciation to Dr. David Lee, dean of Potter College of Arts & Letters, for his leadership in chairing our Centennial committee, and to all the members who served on that committee. They made this Centennial year an indelible one for those of us who call Western Kentucky University home.

It is important to know and understand, and continue to nurture those things that embody the WKU Spirit. There's nothing like your 100th birthday salute to cause people to pause and acknowledge your history. What a great time to rededicate ourselves to the future, to resolve to change in ways that further define and strengthen the University. The year 2006, like our founding year in 1906, will be remembered as a year of growth and progress, a time of reaching for new heights while remaining rooted in a tradition of excellence.


Dr. Gary A. Ransdell
President, WKU



2 Centennial

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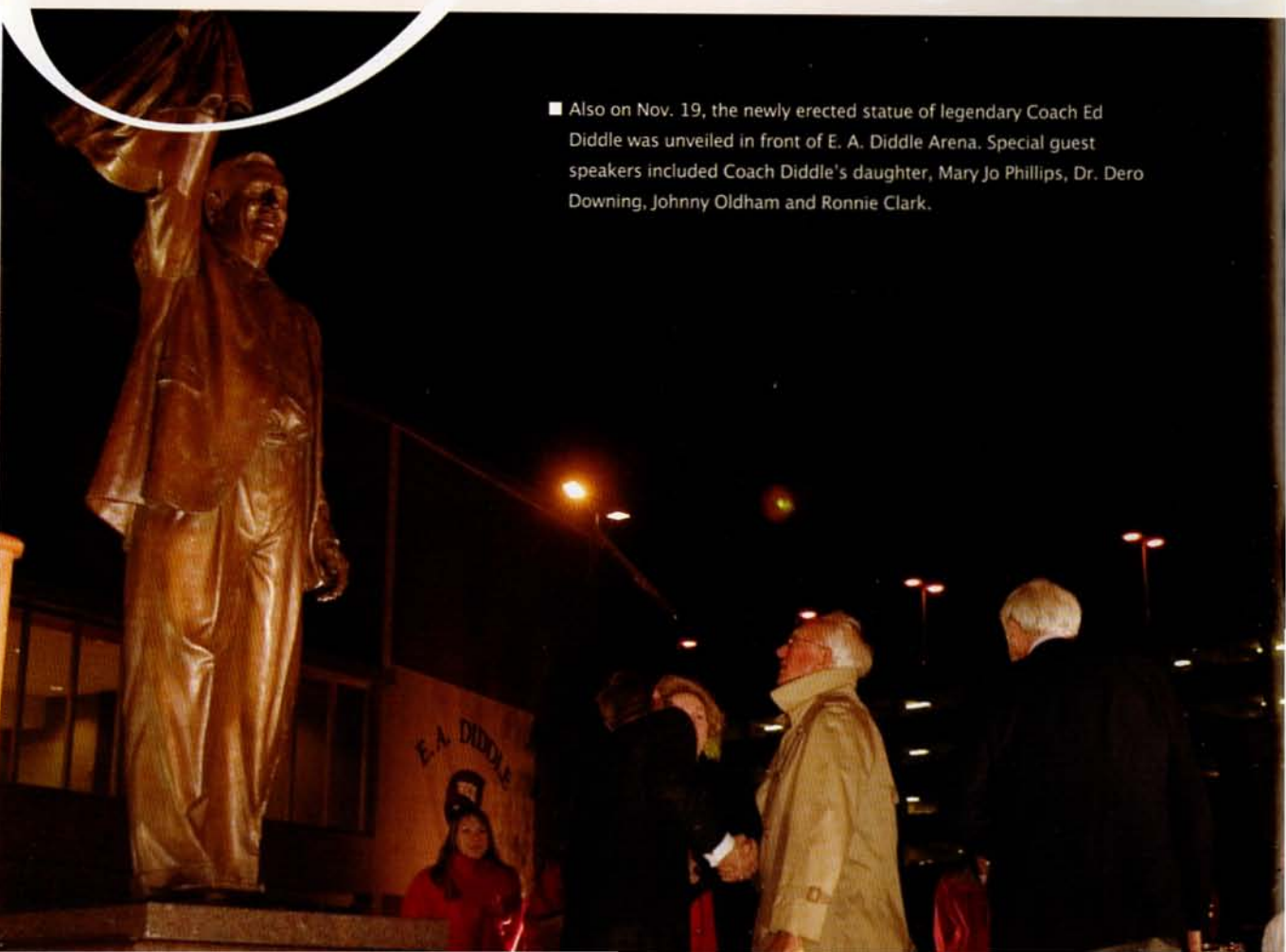
On March 21, 1906 the Kentucky General Assembly approved legislation to establish two teacher training institutions, or "normal schools," in the state. A locating commission chose Bowling Green to be the site of one, and the Western Kentucky State Normal School was created.

The new state-supported school took over the building and student body of the privately owned Southern Normal School. The owner of the Southern Normal School, Henry Hardin Cherry, had been actively involved in the campaign to establish teacher training schools and became Western's first president. Classes began on Jan. 22, 1907.

The Western Spirit was on prominent display throughout 2006 "A Century of Spirit" activities.

"It seems like the Centennial should start at the highest part of the hill and the oldest part of the campus," Dr. David Lee, dean of Potter College of Arts & Letters and chair of the Centennial committee said during the celebration's kickoff Nov. 19, 2005, at the Guthrie Overlook in front of Van Meter Hall.

■ Also on Nov. 19, the newly erected statue of legendary Coach Ed Diddle was unveiled in front of E. A. Diddle Arena. Special guest speakers included Coach Diddle's daughter, Mary Jo Phillips, Dr. Dero Downing, Johnny Oldham and Ronnie Clark.





■ The Centennial celebration officially kicked off on Nov. 19, 2005 with the dedication of the Guthrie Overlook in front of Van Meter Hall. The ceremony featured a poem written by former Kentucky Poet Laureate Joe Survant, and a special tribute to the Guthrie family.



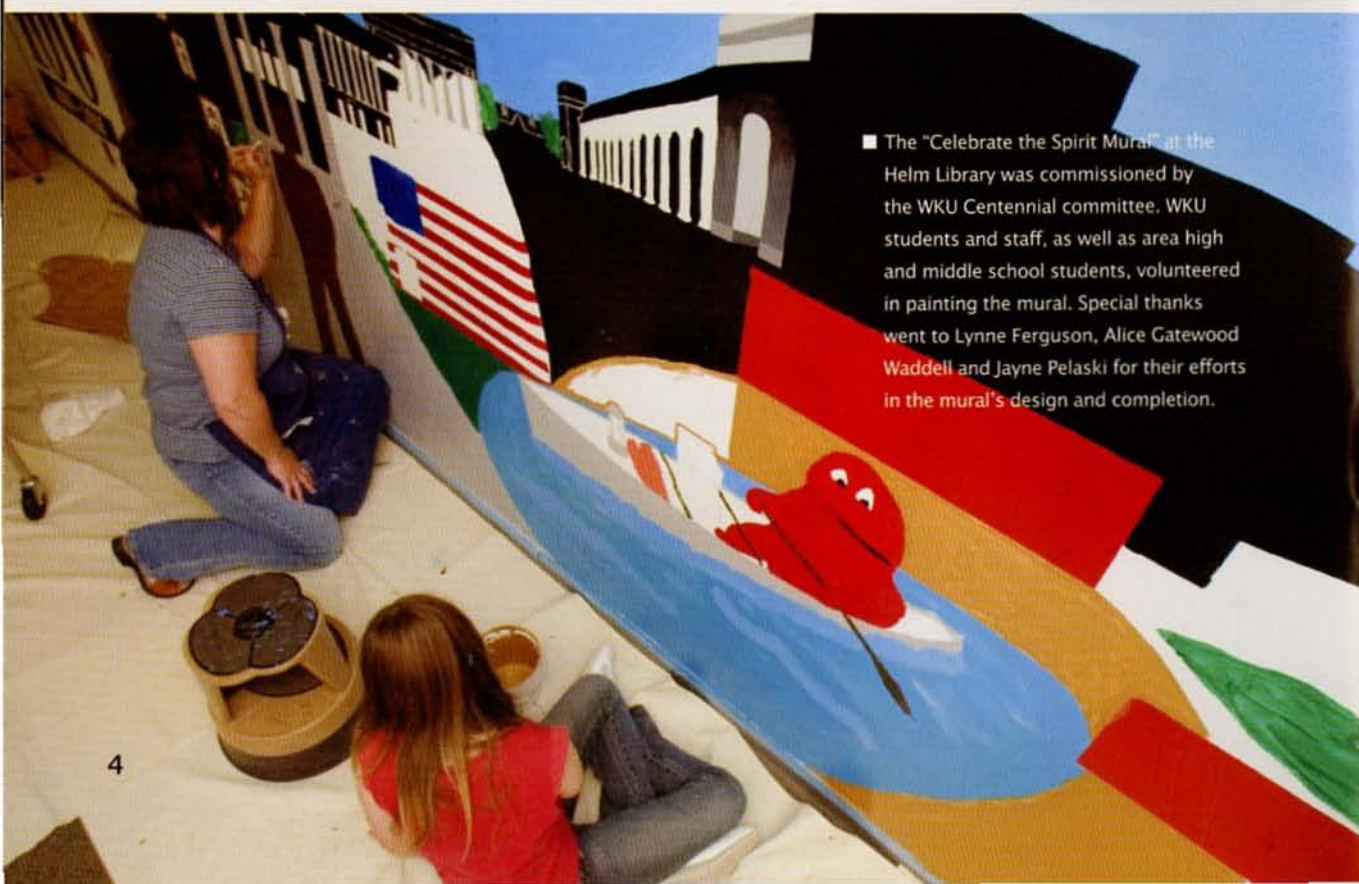
■ In March, the Department of Music and the Department of Theatre & Dance collaborated on the production of the widely acclaimed musical, "Ragtime." The show gives a glimpse of American life during the decade in which WKU was founded.



■ An exhibit celebrating 100 Years of Student Life on the Hill, "Western 100: A Story of Student Life," opened on Jan. 22 at the Kentucky Museum.

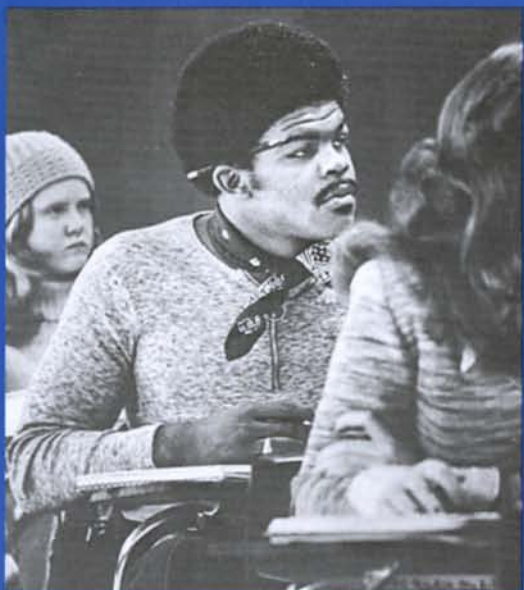


■ In conjunction with Centennial kick-off day festivities, the Centennial Plaza was dedicated and the new University flag was unveiled. The ceremony featured the color guard of the Department of Military Science and the WKU Pep Band.



■ The "Celebrate the Spirit Mural" at the Helm Library was commissioned by the WKU Centennial committee. WKU students and staff, as well as area high and middle school students, volunteered in painting the mural. Special thanks went to Lynne Ferguson, Alice Gatewood Waddell and Jayne Pelaski for their efforts in the mural's design and completion.

- The WKU Jazz Band premiered a composition by Doc Livingston, which was commissioned for the Centennial.



- In 2006, WKU celebrated 50 years of integration.

- In addition to the WKU Centennial, many campus groups celebrated important milestones during 2005–06. Seven Greek organizations marked their 40th anniversary -- Sigma Chi, Phi Delta Theta, Sigma Alpha Epsilon and Sigma Nu fraternities and Alpha Delta Pi, Alpha Omicron Pi and Chi Omega sororities. Delta Sigma Theta Sorority celebrated its 35th year. The WKU volleyball team celebrated its 25th year, and the Big Red Marching band its 80th year.

- The Student Government Association celebrated 40 years on campus.

- In April, the WKU Owensboro campus held a community-wide birthday celebration for WKU.

- *Western Kentucky University, The First 100 Years, 1906–2006*, is a pictorial history of WKU compiled by Nancy Baird, Dr. Carol Crowe–Carraco and Sue Lynn McDaniel, that celebrates the history and tradition of WKU in book form. The authors sifted through the more than 10,000 photos in the Kentucky Museum and University Archives to find those that best illustrate the WKU story.



- On Jan. 18, 2006, officials from WKU and from Eastern Kentucky University held a joint event in Frankfort to thank the General Assembly and the people of the Commonwealth of Kentucky for the creation of both schools, which stemmed from the same legislation.

■ Associate journalism professor Gordon "Mac" McKerral won the Wells Key Award from the Society of Professional Journalists, the society's highest award, presented for outstanding service to SPJ. Professor James Highland received the national President's Award for his work on freedom of information and censorship issues involving campus press.

53 students selected
for the 2006 "Who's Who
Among Students in American
Universities and Colleges."

Academics

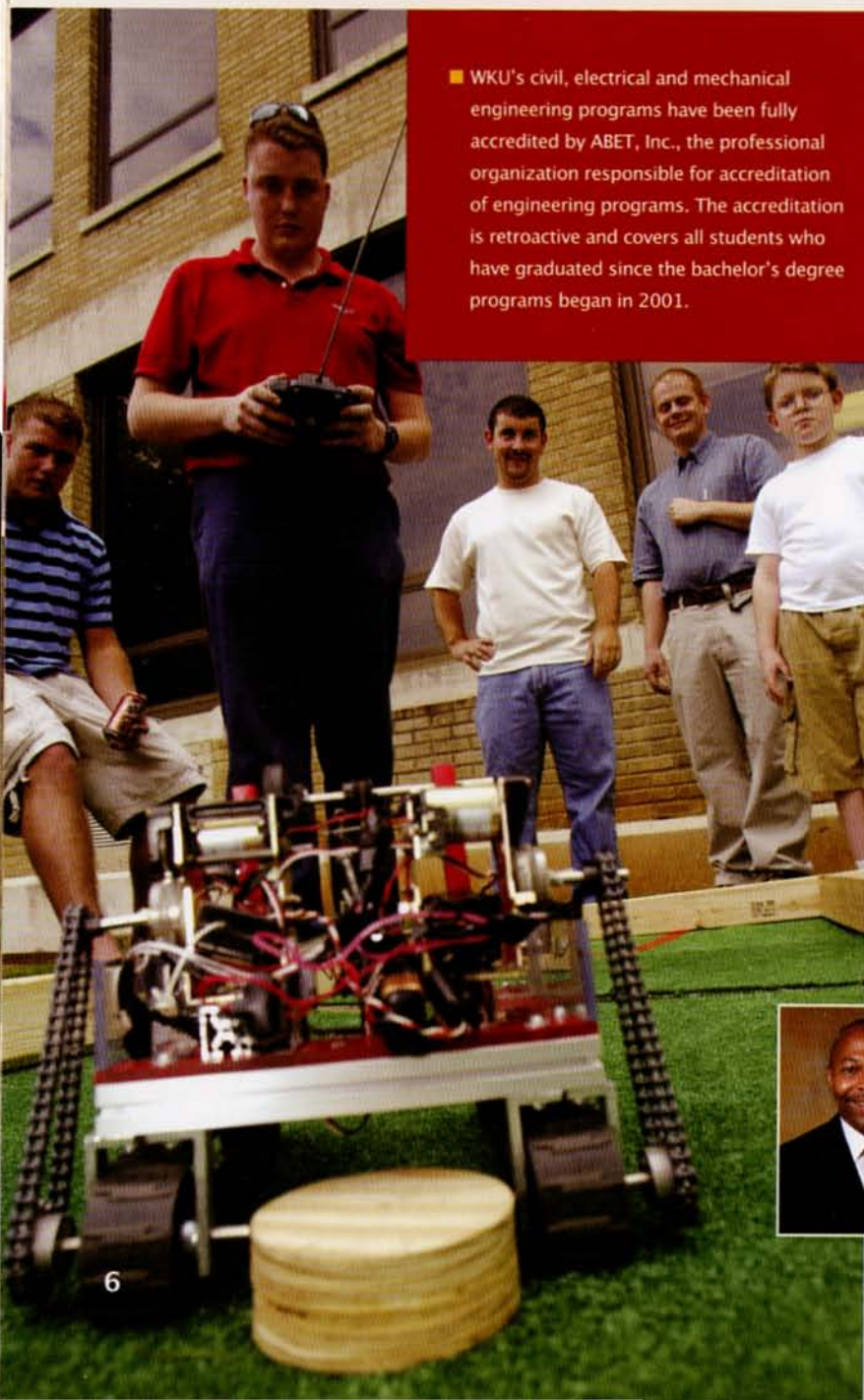
Pre

■ WKU's civil, electrical and mechanical engineering programs have been fully accredited by ABET, Inc., the professional organization responsible for accreditation of engineering programs. The accreditation is retroactive and covers all students who have graduated since the bachelor's degree programs began in 2001.

■ Psychology Professor Sharon Mutter was named one of three 2005 recipients of the Mentorship Award from Women in Cognitive Science.

■ Dr. John A. Moore, associate professor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, was elected to the National Council for the Social Studies Board of Directors, an association of more than 26,000 elementary-college level social studies educators.

■ Accounting Professor Harold Little was elected president of the American Accounting Association Diversity Initiative Section.



- Members of the International Journalism and Media Management Training program, a partnership of WKU and Internews, traveled to Jordan to help improve the reporting of Jordanian broadcasters and journalism students.



- The WKU Art Department received accreditation for 10 years from the National Association of Schools of Art and Design.

mic eminence

- Dr. Thandi Buthelezi, assistant professor of Chemistry, received the 2005 Award of Excellence in Undergraduate Chemical Research from the Department of Chemistry at Indiana University.

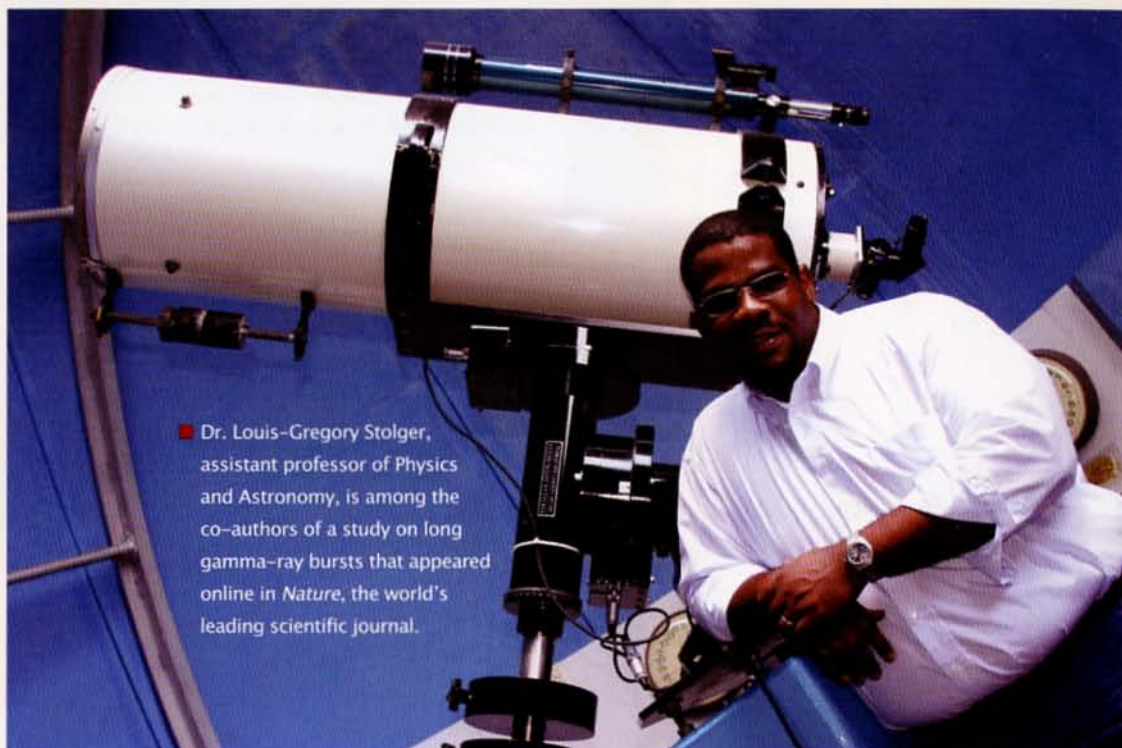


- History Professor Anthony Harkins received the Susanne M. Glasscock Humanities Book Prize for Interdisciplinary Scholarship for his book, "Hillbilly: A Cultural History of an American Icon."



- WKU's Public Radio Service, WKYU-FM, won best public radio newscast in the country for "The Mid-Day Edition" from the Public Radio News Directors, Inc.

10 first-place awards won by WKYU-FM in the state Associated Press competition, more than any other radio station in Kentucky.

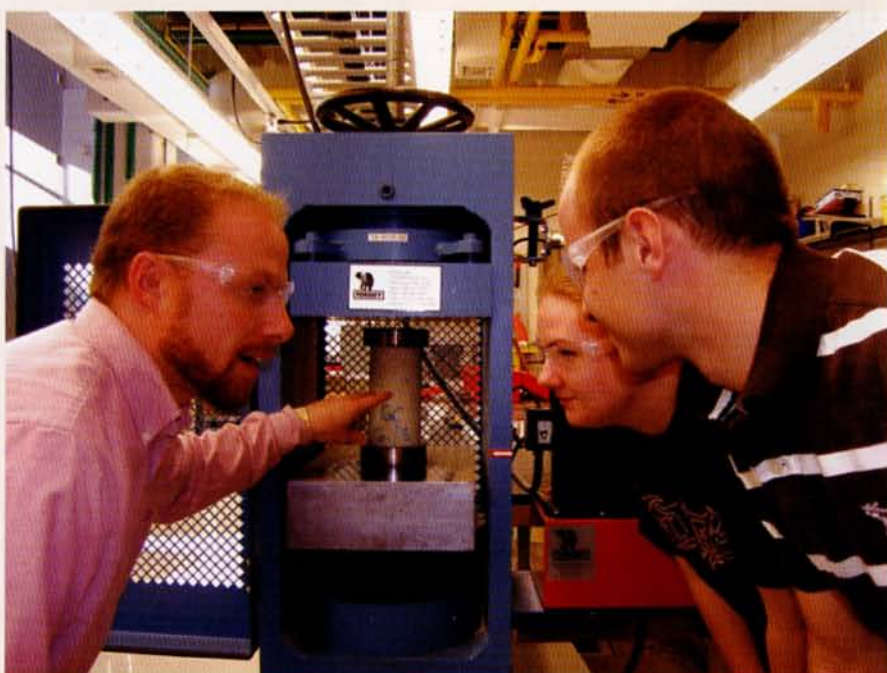


■ Dr. Louis-Gregory Stolger, assistant professor of Physics and Astronomy, is among the co-authors of a study on long gamma-ray bursts that appeared online in *Nature*, the world's leading scientific journal.

2 national champions in Hearst individual championships; Brenna Gallegos in broadcasting and Will DeShazer in photojournalism.

■ Dr. David Keeling, head of the Department of Geography and Geology, participated in an American Geographical Society educational tour to the Seven Seas of Europe and Asia in April 2006.

■ Seven undergraduate students from WKU's Department of Biology were accepted into summer research programs. Five students participated in the Kentucky Biomedical Research Infrastructure Network (KBRIN), a genomics-based research and/or bioinformatics experience at either the University of Louisville or the University of Kentucky. Two other students were awarded highly competitive summer research fellowships at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute in Woods Hole, Mass., and the Mayo Clinic in Scottsdale, Ariz.



14,000
applicants to WKU,
a record number.

5 the number of students in the first graduating class of the Construction Management Program in December 2005.



■ A team of scientists and students from the WKU Biology Department and the University of Ghana's Zoology Department continued their study of insect diversity in the West African nation. The project is funded with \$403,000 from the National Science Foundation.

■ Three WKU Geology majors participated in summer research programs at the Keck Geology Consortium at an island off the coast of Maine, at a NASA student intern program working on the Mars Rover Operation, and at a volcanology program offered by the University of New Mexico and Los Alamos National Laboratory.

■ Three WKU students spent eight weeks conducting chemistry research in Taiwan as part of a collaboration between WKU and National Chung Hsing University in Taichung. The project is funded through a three-year, \$100,238 grant from the National Science Foundation's Office of International Science and Engineering.





■ The API and University of Kentucky also received a three-year, \$1.5 million project from Homeland Security to develop a wireless security system to secure milk transport from farm to processor.

■ WKU's Applied Physics Institute (API) and the Institute for Scientific Research Inc. received a one-year, \$752,423 research and development project from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to develop a system to detect pinhole leaks in rail car containment vessels. The Rail Tank Car Leakage Detection System would alert rail operators and security personnel when a leak is detected.



2 national Pacemaker awards won by the College Heights Herald and the Talisman, making WKU the only university with newspaper and yearbook winners.

■ Accounting Chair Richard Aldridge and Assistant Professor Harold Little were named 2006 Professors of the Year by Beta Gamma Sigma, an honor society for accredited business schools.

■ The Beta Delta Chapter of Phi Upsilon Omicron, a national honor society in Family and Consumer Sciences, was the national winner in the 2006 Professional Program Project. This is the fourth time in the past several years that the WKU chapter has been a national winner.

■ WKU was the only university to earn national Pacemaker awards for both its student newspaper and yearbook in 2005. This is the 11th Pacemaker for the College Heights Herald and the sixth for the Talisman. The award, co-sponsored by the Associated Collegiate Press and the Newspaper Association of America Foundation, is considered the Pulitzer Prize of college journalism.

■ The WKU Forensic Team continued its string of state, national and international titles in 2005-06. The team won its 16th straight Kentucky Forensic Association State Championship; its third American Forensic Association National Individual Events Tournament in four years; the National Forensic Association team sweepstakes titles in individual events and Lincoln-Douglas Debate; and the International Forensic Association title.

■ Nursing Professor Beverly Siegrist was among the first in the U.S. to earn national certification in nursing education from the National League for Nursing.



277

students who participated in Study Abroad courses, up from 27 in 2001-02.

■ Joel Despain, a geoscience graduate student, made national news for his part in the discovery of 27 previously unknown species of spiders, centipedes, scorpion-like animals, and other animals in California caves. Despain is a cave specialist for the National Park Service at Sequoia National Park.

■ Melissa Hendrickson, a geoscience graduate student, received the 2006 William O. Wilson Scholarship from the Karst Waters Institute for her master's thesis proposal "The Influence of Organic Acid on the Dissolution Rate of Limestone: Beaver Falls - Mop Spring, Tongass National Forest, Alaska." One student is chosen nationally each year for this award.

15 Hearst Intercollegiate Photojournalism Championships won by WKU in the past 17 years.



9 cities visited by 75 students for Habitat for Humanity projects during winter and spring breaks.



■ Astronomy Professor Charles McGruder was appointed to a three-year term on the National Research Council's Committee on Astronomy and Astrophysics.

■ Undergraduate and graduate teams won the 42nd annual Intercollegiate Business Strategy Competition for the second straight year.

■ A water resource project of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization led from WKU received \$30,000 funding through 2009. The project, "Global Study of Karst Aquifers and Water Resources," is co-led by researchers in China, Spain and England.

39 students who participated in the College of Health and Human Services first Living and Learning Community, sponsored by Greenview Regional Hospital.



■ Students and faculty from WKU's Center for Cave and Karst Studies demonstrated a Void Detection Robot for the U.S. Customs and Border Patrol in Calexico, Calif. The robot, designed by WKU electrical engineering students, can be used to detect underground voids such as caves and tunnels.

- Two students and the College Heights Herald were honored by the Society of Professional Journalists. Ashlee Clark was elected to the SPJ national board of directors and Ed Linsmier won first in general news photography. The Herald was third best overall in the best all-around non-daily student newspaper category. The WKU student chapter of SPJ was named Outstanding Chapter in Region 5.

- After a review process that took more than two years, WKU was granted reaffirmation of accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

- The Green River Regional Education Cooperative received a three-year, \$1 million School Leadership Grant from the U.S. Department of Education. GRREC will partner with WKU's Department of Education Administration, Leadership and Research to train 20 people in a new alternative route to the principalship that combines traditional classes, online classes and field-based work with a mentor.

14

WKU students accepted to the UK pharmacy school, second only to UK and twice as many as any other state school.



1,346 academically talented seventh-graders in Kentucky who qualified for the state recognition ceremony of Duke University's Talent Identification Program, hosted by The Center for Gifted Studies.

- WKU's student chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management earned a superior merit award from the national organization. This is the first time the chapter had applied for the honor.



- The Students in Free Enterprise Team placed second in a national competition. The team received a \$2,000 cash award and trophy at the 2006 SIFE USA National Exposition for its finish in the Discover Financial Services Success Skills Competition. The competition honors SIFE teams that were most effective in teaching the success skills through outreach projects in their communities. Earlier the team won its second consecutive regional championship and won five of the six national specialty competition awards, including success skills.



■ WKU's Institute for Combustion Science and Environmental Technology celebrated the grand opening of its new facility at the Center for Research and Development in February. During the ceremony, Commerce Secretary George Ward announced a collaboration to advance the cause of clean coal research in Kentucky and presented \$352,999 from the Kentucky Office of Energy Policy.

■ For the sixth time in seven years, WKU finished in the top 10 in the National Concrete Canoe Competition. "Topper Chopper" placed eighth in the event sponsored by the American Society of Civil Engineers.

■ Jonathan Bucy was one of 24 students selected nationally to participate in the Stardust Fellowship, a two-day leadership development experience within the American Humanics network.

1,594

course enrollments during WKU's first Winter Term 2006, the highest in the state.

■ Dr. John All, professor of Geography and Geology, and two graduate students spent winter break in Chile on research projects. Dr. All studied climate change for five weeks on a \$22,824 National Science Foundation grant. Daniel Reeder and Cari Bourette spent a month studying globalization and its impact on the environment, sustainability and the people.

■ Dr. Julia Link Roberts, Mahurin Professor of Gifted Studies and director of WKU's Center for Gifted Studies, represented the U.S. as one of three delegates to the 16th Biennial Conference of the World Conference for Gifted and Talented Children.



■ WKU's Division of Institutional Advancement received a Grand Award in total educational fundraising programs from District III of the Council for the Advancement and Support of Education, being named best in the southeastern U.S.

■ The Kentucky Mesonet, a statewide automated environmental monitoring network being developed by the Kentucky Climate Center in partnership with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the National Weather Service, has been recognized as the official source of climatological observations for the state. The network of approximately 100 stations will collect real-time weather and climate observations and will support a variety of products to serve needs across Kentucky.

6

high school students conducted research with WKU chemistry faculty as part of Project SEED, an effort to encourage economically disadvantaged high school students to pursue career opportunities in the chemical sciences.

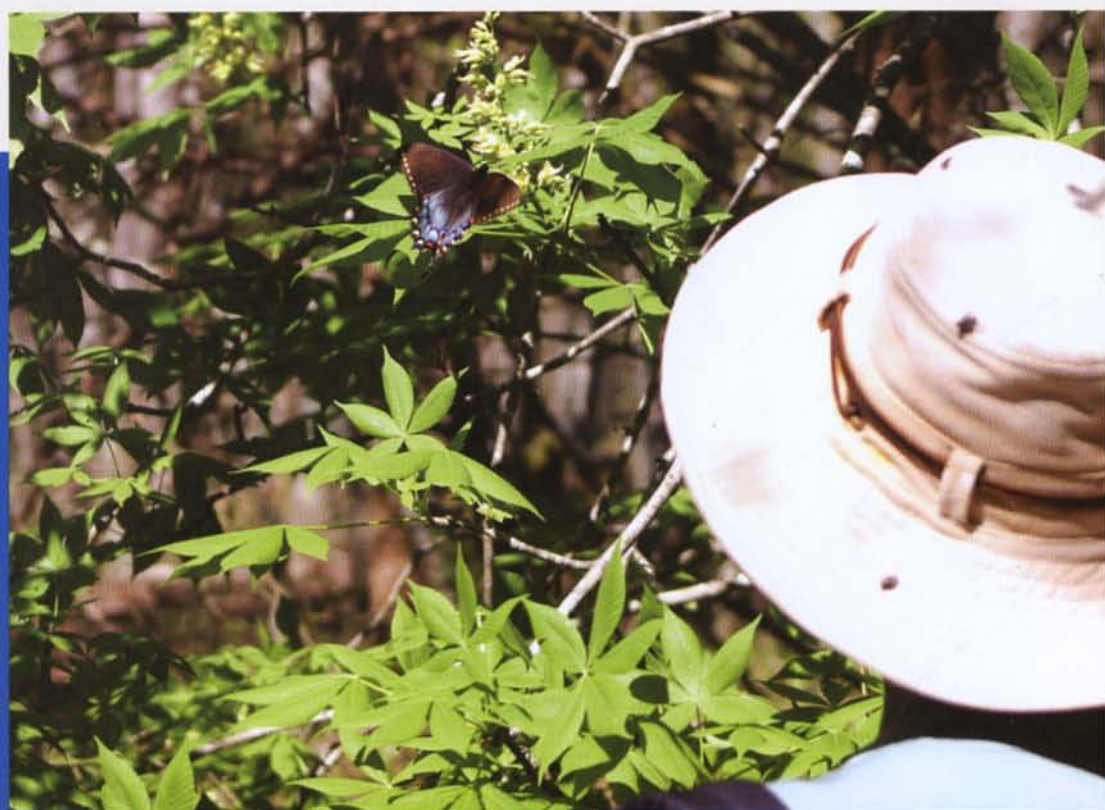


■ A team of mechanical engineering students placed fourth in the national finals of the Student Design Competition at the American Society of Mechanical Engineers International Mechanical Engineering Congress and Exposition.

■ WKU is part of a coalition of Kentucky universities and organizations that created KentuckySat, a joint enterprise to design, build, launch and operate small satellites for education, research and economic innovation purposes. The primary mission of KySat is to train students in the dynamics of spacecraft design, construction, launch and operation and to support accompanying education and research applications.

11 consecutive Ohio Valley Regional championships won by WKU's concrete canoe team.

■ Stuart Payton, undergraduate in Civil Engineering, won first place in the student poster contest at the national meeting of the American Institute of Professional Geologists.



592 species of butterflies and moths identified at Mammoth Cave National Park by WKU biologist Dr. Jeffrey Marcus and a team of volunteers.



■ WKU's e-MBA program was named a "Best Buy" among accredited electronic MBA programs by Get Educated.com.

28 photos of WKU staff members, taken by WKU photo journalism students and featured in a "Why Western Works" exhibit.

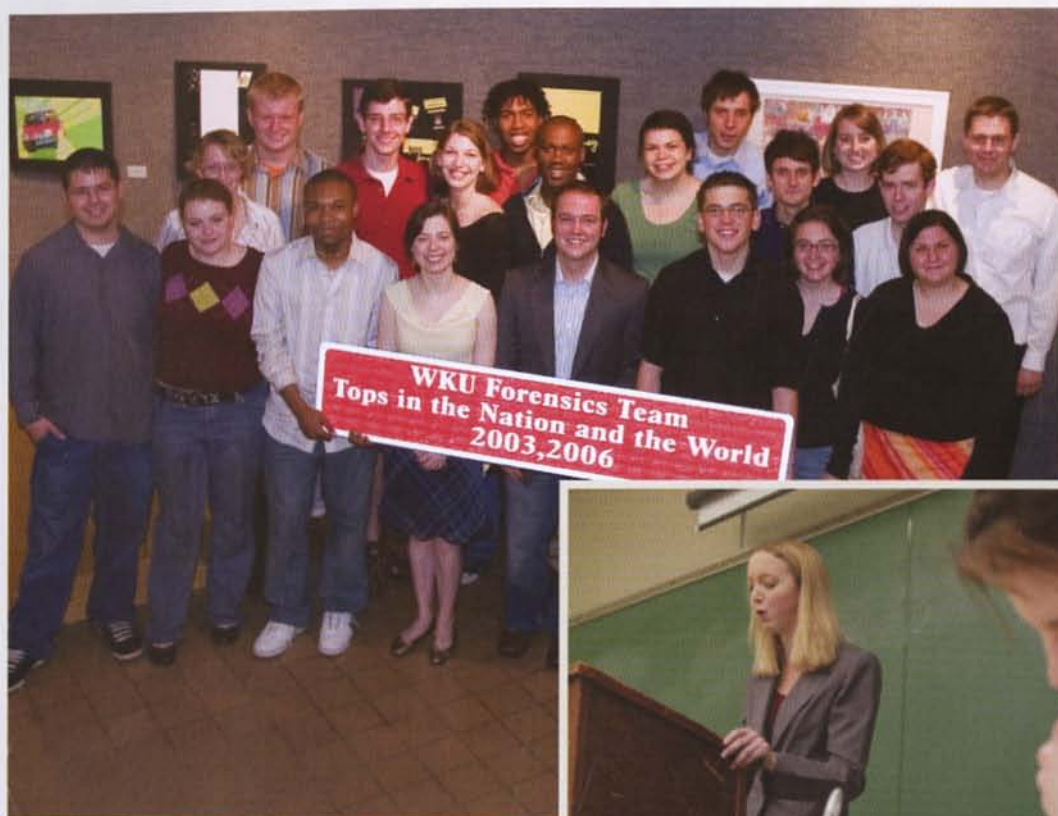


■ Psychology Professor Farley Norman was named a Fellow of the American Psychological Society.

■ Graduate student Michael Collins received one of the 2006 William N. Wasson Student Leadership and Academic Awards from the National Intramural-Recreational Sports Association.

■ WKU's School of Journalism and Broadcasting finished third in the annual Hearst Journalism Awards Program, its eighth consecutive top four finish. WKU won the photojournalism competition for the 15th time in 17 years. Will DeShazer won the photo national championship and Brenna Gallegos won the broadcast news national championship.

4 major international and national speech and debate championships captured by WKU's Forensic Team, the third sweep of major titles in four years.



16

consecutive Kentucky Forensic Association state championships won by WKU.



18,645

Fall 2005 record enrollment.
(7th straight increase)

■ Dr. Kay Gandy in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction received a \$70,000 Fulbright Group Projects Abroad grant to take 11 secondary and middle school social studies teachers to South Africa for a month. She coauthored the grant with Dr. Daffell Kruger of Illinois State University.

■ Dr. Linda Pickle, head of the Department of Modern Languages, received the 2005 Lifetime Achievement Award from the Kentucky World Language Association.

■ Timothy Dail, a May 2005 graduate, is one of more than 1,000 U.S. students to travel abroad through the Fulbright Program. Dail traveled to Stendal, Germany, to teach English as a foreign language.

8 consecutive times WKU's School of Journalism and Broadcasting has finished in the top four nationally in the Hearst Journalism Awards Program.



Institutional

\$31 million

record amount of grants
and contracts; an increase
of 134 percent since 1996.

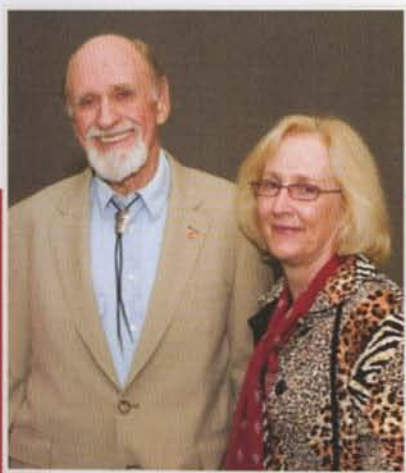
\$14.5 million

a record amount
in annual cash gift
deposits for 2005-06.

Development



■ Jerry Baker of Bowling Green made an estate commitment of property, artwork and cash valued at \$15 million, the largest gift in WKU's history. The Baker Arboretum and Gardens will become a hands-on lab, retreat center, museum and national model for a unique university partnership.



■ Dr. Page Talley and his wife, Betty, of Sebastian, Fla., made a \$600,000 commitment in their estate to benefit the Family Counseling Clinic at WKU. The gift will be used to create an operational endowment for the clinic, which is part of the Clinical Education Complex. Other gifts to support the CEC and its programming include: \$20,000 from the Builders Association of Bowling Green; \$17,500 from a fundraiser hosted by Louis Berman and Maribeth McBride; \$15,000 from LifeSkills; \$13,500 from Monticello Bank; and \$5,000 from US Bank.

■ A \$1.2 million estate commitment from a confidential donor will be used to provide scholarships for deserving students.

■ Mike and Belle Hunt of Bowling Green made a \$200,000 challenge gift in support of endowed scholarships for Lady Topper basketball.

■ Dr. Eugene Evans, a former faculty member in the Gordon Ford College of Business, committed \$150,000 for scholarships. The Jonathan Andrew Evans Merit Scholarship in memory of his son is for students majoring in liberal arts, and the Velma and Clarence Evans Merit Scholarship in memory of his parents is for students majoring in business.

At



- Men's Golf won the conference championship for the first time in school history and earned a bid to the NCAA West Region.



- Lady Topper Basketball won the Sun Belt Conference East Division with a 12-2 record and made it to the semifinals of the Women's National Invitation Tournament.



- For the last two years, WKU has led the Sun Belt Conference Academic Honor Roll, having the league's highest number of athletes earning a 3.0 or better GPA. In 2005-06, 144 WKU athletes made the honor roll.

- Women's Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field won the first women's track conference championship in school history.

hletics

With a league-record-tying seven Sun Belt championships, WKU took home the 2005-06 Vic Bubas Cup for the third time in five years. The cup goes to the conference institution that best displays all-around excellence during the academic year. WKU won conference titles in men's cross country, volleyball, men's swimming and diving, women's indoor track, women's basketball, men's golf and women's outdoor track.

■ Men's Cross Country captured its 13th conference championship.

■ Track and cross country athlete Kevin Dick was named to ESPN the magazine's Academic All-District IV first team and was also selected to ESPN the magazine third-team Academic All-America. He holds a 3.91 grade-point average, majoring in electrical engineering, mathematics and religious studies.

■ Men's Swimming won a second straight conference title.

SUN BELT CHAMPIONSHIPS

Year	Winner	Second
2005-06	WKU	Middle Tennessee
2004-05	Middle Tennessee	WKU
2003-04	Middle Tennessee	WKU/North Texas
2002-03	WKU	Middle Tennessee
2001-02	WKU	New Mexico State

■ Placekicker Chris James was named a first-team preseason All-America selection by both the Sports Network and I-AA.org. During the 2005 season, James scored 87 points and was named to I-AA.org's All-Star team, first-team all-Gateway Football Conference.

■ Troy Hawkins was named a Cleveland Golf All-America Scholar. Hawkins averaged under 74 strokes per round in 2005-06 while maintaining a grade-point average of 3.2 or above. He was the only Division I athlete in Kentucky to be selected an All-America scholar by the Golf Coaches Association of America.

■ Swimmer Karl Swanson was named Sun Belt Conference Male Student-Athlete of the Year. Swanson won three individual events and was a member of the winning 800-yard free relay team at the conference championships.

■ Volleyball finished 31-3 and advanced to the second NCAA Tournament in school history.



■ Men's Basketball won the Sun Belt Conference East Division with a 12-2 record.

Financial

WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY

June 30, 2006

The University is a component unit of the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The financial statements include the University and its blended component unit, the Western Kentucky University Research Foundation. The Condensed Statement of Net Assets presented herein does not include the assets, liabilities and net assets of the WKU Foundation, Inc., the WKU Student Life Foundation, Inc., or the College Heights Foundation, Inc.



Statements

A summary of the University's assets, liabilities and net assets, as of June 30, 2006 and 2005, are as follows:

Condensed Statement of Net Assets

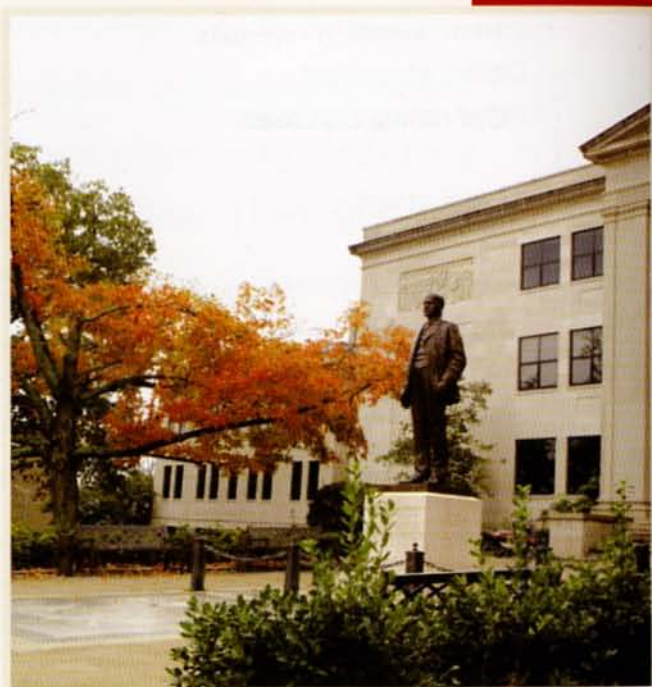
(in thousands)

Assets	2006	2005
Current assets	\$ 57,266	\$ 41,566
Capital assets, net	196,332	184,169
Other noncurrent assets	32,139	42,293
Total assets	\$285,737	\$268,028
Liabilities		
Current liabilities	\$ 27,220	\$ 25,865
Noncurrent liabilities	59,421	64,201
Total liabilities	\$ 86,641	\$ 90,066
Net Assets		
Invested in capital assets, net of related debt	\$129,922	\$115,839
Restricted		
Nonexpendable	12,611	11,867
Expendable	22,704	21,500
Unrestricted	33,859	28,756
Total net assets	\$199,096	\$177,962

\$541 million amount devoted to campus rebuilding program. \$240 million to academic buildings, \$142 million to student life, \$65 million to athletic facilities, \$5 million to beautification, \$39 million to shared campus use, and \$49 million to WKU/KCTCS partnerships.

The Statement of Revenue, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets summarizes all financial transactions that increase or decrease net assets. The purpose of the statement is to present the revenues from providing goods and services, expenses incurred to acquire and deliver the goods and services and other revenues, expenses and gains and losses recognized by the University.

The Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets presented herein does not include the revenues, expenses and changes in net assets of the WKU Foundation, Inc., the WKU Student Life Foundation, Inc., or the College Heights Foundation, Inc.



\$115 million

capital construction projects under way.

\$201 million

planned capital construction projects.

A summary of the University's revenues, expenses and changes in net assets for the year ended June 30, 2006 and 2005, is as follows:

Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Assets

(in Thousands)

	2006	2005
Operating revenues		
Net tuition and fees	\$ 68,682	\$ 58,013
Grants and contracts	28,285	27,554
Sales and services of educational departments	8,586	11,335
Auxiliary enterprises	16,632	15,208
Other	8,924	7,991
Total operating revenues	131,109	120,101
Operating expenses	221,730	204,502
Operating loss*	(90,621)	(84,401)
Nonoperating revenues (expenses)		
State appropriations	78,039	70,040
Grants and contracts	31,563	26,402
Investment income	2,621	1,555
Interest on capital asset-related debt	(2,462)	(2,160)
Other	10	(38)
Net nonoperating revenues	109,771	95,799
Income before other revenues, expenses, gains or losses	19,150	11,398
State capital appropriations	1,984	5,113
Increase in net assets	21,134	16,511
Net assets, beginning of year	177,962	161,451
Net assets, end of year	\$199,096	\$177,962

*Operating loss is offset by Nonoperating revenue and expenses and Other revenues and expenses to produce an increase in net assets in each year.

\$176 million completed capital construction projects since 1998.



Leadership

Federal and State Officials Representing Bowling Green 2005-06

Mitch McConnell
United States Senator

Jim Bunning
United States Senator

Ron Lewis
Representative
2nd Congressional District

Ernie Fletcher
Governor

Jody Richards
Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ky. 20

Brett Guthrie
Senator, Ky. 32

Jim DeCesare
Representative, Ky. 21

Steve Nunn
Representative, Ky. 23

Rob Wilkey
Representative, Ky. 22

Board of Regents 2005-2006

Mr. Cornelius A. Martin
Chair, Bowling Green

Mr. Robert Earl Fischer
Vice Chair, Dallas, Texas

Ms. Katie Dawson
Radcliff (student)

Dr. Robert L. Dietle
Bowling Green (faculty)

Ms. Lois Gray
Vine Grove

Ms. Yvette Haskins
Campbellsville

Ms. Judi Hughes
Bowling Green

Ms. Pat Jordan
Bowling Green (staff)

Ms. Forrest Roberts
Owensboro

Ms. LaDonna G. Rogers
Glasgow

Mr. Larry Zielke
Louisville

Administrative Council 2005-06

Dr. Gary A. Ransdell
President

Dr. Barbara Burch
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Mr. Bob Edwards
Assistant Vice President for University Relations

Mr. Tom Hiles
Vice President for Institutional Advancement

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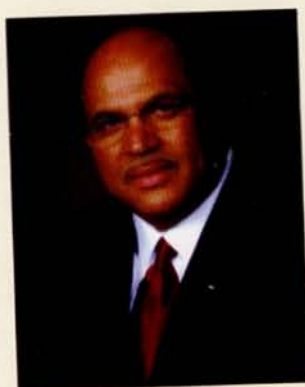
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Cornelius Martin

Western Kentucky University lost an important leader and friend on June 3, 2006, when prominent Bowling Green businessman and WKU Board of Regents Chair Cornelius Martin was killed in a motorcycle accident.

Martin, a native of Greenville, Ky., served on the WKU Board of Regents for 12 years, including the last four years as chairman. He was the founder and president of Martin Automotive Group with multiple auto dealerships across the country. The business is in the top 10 of minority-owned dealer groups nationwide. An avid motorcyclist, Martin also owned two Harley-Davidson motorcycle dealerships and an aviation company.

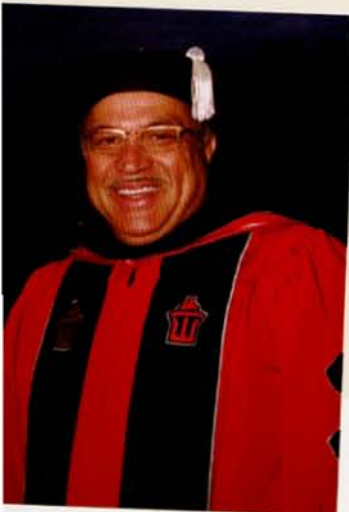
At the 2006 Faculty – Staff Convocation, WKU President Gary Ransdell said, “Cornelius Martin was the only individual in WKU’s history who had twice served as Chair of our Board of Regents. He was our Chair at the time of his death. He was instrumental in creating our strategic plan which was first introduced in 1998, and he was fundamentally engaged in every assessment of our progress since then. He was a man of vision, of character, and whose insights set the pace for everything we have been about as a campus community since my tenure in this position began nine years ago. Whether you knew him or not, you must know that we will miss him.”

Many colleagues and friends remember Martin as a tireless supporter of the University. He was a generous donor toward a variety of university programs, including creating endowments for the “Gail Martin Lecture Series” for Women’s Studies in honor of his wife, and “The Cornelius Martin Minority Teacher Recruitment Fund.” The Board of Regents’ meeting room on campus was named after Martin, who also served on the WKU Foundation Board of Trustees and the Institute for Economic Development Board.

In an address to WKU business students in 2000 as part of Black History Month activities, Martin said his business success could be summed up in two words: hard work. “Hard work is not always fun,” he said, “but hard work is the price you pay to be successful.”

Martin also cited what he considered the seven personal attributes of success: desire, vision, character, integrity, attitude, wisdom and leadership. All of those attributes “form the essence of who you are and what you are like as a person,” he said.

Those attributes were the essence of **Cornelius Martin.**





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